8328643/2023/VIG-VI-PRR01

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Public Services – PR&RD Department – Allegations of irregularities in execution of the work "Operation and maintenance of CPWS Scheme to 55 Habitations in Y.Palem & Dornala areas in Prakasam District "against Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.)– Disciplinary proceedings initiated – Inquiry Ordered – Charges proved in regular Inquiry conducted - Imposition of withholding of three percent (03%) pension for a period of One (01) year – Orders – Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (VIG.VI) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.904 **Dated:21/12/2023.**

Read the following:-

1. From Chief Engineer-IV (V&QC), RWS&S Department, Lr.No.AEE1/DEE1/V&QC/Y.Palem & Dornala/2015, dt:23.01.2016
2. G.O.Rt.No.146, P.R. & R.D. (Vig.II) Department, dated:14.02.2018.
3. G.O.Rt.No.147 , P.R. & R.D. (Vig.II) Department, dated:14.02.2018.
4. G.O.Rt.No.151, P.R. & R.D. (Vig.II) Department, dated:14.02.2018.
5. From Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.), written statement of defense, dt:nil.
6. G.O.Rt.No.375 - 376,PR&RD (Vig.VI) Dept., dt.16.05.2019
7. From the Enquiry Officer & ENC, RWS&S, Lr.No.ENC/RWS&S /Y.Palem & Dornala/Inquiry Report/2020, dt:22.10.2020.
8. Govt Memo No.5319/VIG.VI/2016, dt:19.05.2021.
9. Representation, dt:22.06.2021 of Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) received through ENC letter dated 01.07.2021.
10. Govt Memo No.5319/VIG.VI/2016, dt:25.02.2022.
11. Representation, dt:nil of Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) received through ENC letter dated 30.03.2022.
12. Govt Letter No. 5319/VIG.VI/2016, Dated:12/07/2022.
13. From Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada, File No.GAD03-APPS0DCC/60/2022-DC.SEC-APPSC(Computer No.1800488), dt:21.09.2022.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, Chief Engineer-IV (V&QC), RWS&S Department, submitted a detailed report along with statements of Officers involved in the sub-work namely "Repairs and Renewals in O&M of CPWS Scheme to 55 habitations in Y.Palem & Dornala areas during the period from 01.04.2013 to 30.06.2013 in Prakasam District with an estimated cost of Rs. 2.00 lakhs" in Operation & Maintenance of CPWS Scheme to 55 habitations in Y.Palem & Dornala areas in Prakasam District which is sanctioned for Rs. 68.00 lakhs. Based on this said report of Chief Engineer- IV (V&QC), RWS&S Department, common disciplinary proceedings were initiated vide reference 2nd read above against Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) and five others duly framing articles of charge vide reference 4th read above.

(Contd.P-2)

2. And whereas, in the reference 5th read above, the charged officer Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) submitted her written statement of defense, denying the charges framed against her.

3. As the written statement of defense submitted by the charged officer was not convincing, it was decided to entrust the case to regular inquiry and in the reference 6th read above, orders were issued, appointing the Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S as Inquiring Authority and Chief Engineer-I, RWS&S, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada as Presenting Officer to conduct enquiry into the charges framed against the said charged officer. The Inquiring Authority has submitted Inquiry Report vide reference 7th read above.

4. In the reference 8th read above, a copy of the Inquiry Report was communicated to the charged officer Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) under Rule 21(2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (CC&A) Rules, 1991 with a direction to submit her written representation, if any, on the findings of Inquiring Authority to the Government within (15) days from the date of receipt of Government Memo. In response, the Charged Officer has submitted her Written Statement of Defense, vide reference 9th read above, through Engineer-in-Chief letter in which the Charged Officer requested to exonerate from the charge based on the explanation submitted by her.

5. After examining the findings of the Inquiry Authority and representation submitted by the charged officer, Government have provisionally decided to impose the punishment of withholding of three percent (03%) pension for a period of one (01) year on Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.). Accordingly, a Show cause Notice has been issued to the Charged Officer duly indicating the proposed punishment, vide reference 10th read above. The explanation of the Charged Officer received through Engineer-in-Chief, RWS&S vide reference 11th read above, is not found convincing. Hence, it has been decided to confirm the proposed punishment to impose against the above retired charged officer.

6. In the reference 12th read above, the Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Public Service Commission has been requested to communicate the concurrence of the Commission on the proposed punishment for imposing penalty against the Charged Officer. The APPSC have advised to impose the penalty of withholding of Five percent (05%) pension for a period of one (01) year Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) vide reference 13th read above.

7. Government, after careful consideration of the matter, have taken a stand to abide by the earlier provisional decision and decided to impose a punishment of withholding of three percent (03%) pension for a period of one (01) year under Rule-9 of the Andhra Pradesh Revised Pension Rules, 1980 against Smt. Ch. Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) as

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the charges are partially held proved on the allegations of irregularities in execution of the work "Operation and maintenance of CPWS Scheme to 55 Habitations in Y.Palem & Dornala areas in Prakasam District".

8. Accordingly Government hereby order to impose the punishment of withholding of three percent (03%) pension for a period of one (01) year against Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.)

9. The Engineer-in-Chief, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Vijayawada shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
Smt.Ch.Sujatha Kumari, the then Superintendent (Retd.) (through Engineer-In-Chief, RWS&S, Vijayawada)
The Engineer-in-Chief, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation, Vijayawada (in duplicate with a request to obtain and furnish the dated acknowledgment of the orders)
Copy to:
The Secretary, APVC, Secretariat Building-5, Velagapudi.
The Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada (w.r.t File No. GAD03-APPS0DCC/60 /2022-DC.SEC-APPSC(Computer No.1800488), dt:21.09.2022).
The Accountant General, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Superintending Engineer, RWS&S, Prakasam.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER